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BOOK REVIEWS.

Annuario Statistico Italiano, 1892. MINISTERO DI AGRICOLTURA, INDUSTRIA E COMMERCIO. DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA STATISTICA. Rome: G. Bertero, 1893. Large 8vo. pp. xi. + 963.

A VALUABLE accession to statistical literature will be found in this Yearbook, published by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. It contains ample information concerning climate, surface, population, hygiene, education, press, charity, justice, prisons, elections, agriculture, industry, wages and strikes, prices, mortgage indebtedness, and many other interesting subjects.

The economic development of Italy, as portrayed by the Yearbook, is marked by a steady decline of agriculture and a rapid growth of industry. The population has increased since 1872 from 26,967,000 to 30,536,000 in 1892. At the same time the cultivated area and the total production have generally decreased, and show a slight increase only in viticulture and horticulture. The indebtedness of landed property has also largely increased. The mortgage indebtedness is given under two headings, debts for productive purposes and unproductive indebtedness. The latter has been progressing at the following rate:

							Millions of Lire.
1871	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,583
1881	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,949
1892	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,260

One of the results of the decline of agriculture is the increase of emigration. This includes two movements differing in kind, first, temporary migration in search of work, and second, permanent expatriation. Under the former head come navvies, masons, etc., filling the labor markets of the great European cities at certain seasons and generally returning home at the end of their busy season. The latter head includes emigrants proper. The composition of the total emigration for 1892 (both classes included and counting only persons of 14 years and upward), was as follows:

	Per cent.
Peasants	46.03
Navvies, Common Laborers, etc.	23.28
Building Trades (Masons, Carpenters, etc.)	15.48
Artisans	6.57

The agricultural population furnished the greater proportion of emigrants.

The growth of industry in Italy is best indicated by the increase in the number of steam engines at work. The figures are as follows :

				Number of Engines.	Horse Power.
1876	-	-	-	4,459	54,231
1890	-	-	-	9,946	156,680

Mining has shown the greatest progress among all the branches of Italian industry, the aggregate product of mining having nearly doubled in value and more than doubled in quantity from 1871 to 1891.

It appears from these figures that Italy, since her unification, is steadily advancing toward the type of a modern industrial country. As to her intellectual development, however, she still remains one of the most backward countries on the European continent, though much has already been done for the education of the people. The proportion of illiteracy among persons entering into marriage is indicated by the following percentages :

					Males.	Females.
1871	-	-	-	-	57.73	76.73
1894	-	-	-	-	41.12	59.16

The data dealing with wages and prices are very comprehensive, and, when worked over in a systematic way, may considerably further the study of the vexed questions of value.

ISAAC A. HOURWICH.

Inland Waterways, Their Relation to Transportation. By EMORY R.

JOHNSON, PH.D. Supplement to the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, 1893. 8vo. pp. 164.

THE growing importance of transportation facilities and low rates as a factor of industrial growth makes welcome an intelligent discussion of any phase of the problem. Dr. Johnson has already manifested his interest in the improvement of waterways by a defence of river and harbor improvements as carried on under the unsystematic and wasteful method which has long prevailed in the United States. He thinks the benefits to be derived are great enough to more than compensate for the waste which the present system involves; besides, he is hopeful enough to find indications of decided improvement.

In the present paper, Dr. Johnson gives an account of the river and harbor improvements, ship canals and inland canals which the "Renaissance of Inland Navigation" has caused to be projected or